DECLASSIFIED

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 22, 1953

The Cabinet Ministers arrived this morning and I went to a meeting with them and their staffs at the Hotel Talleyrand, where I gave a briefing on the EDC ratification prospects.

Today Mr. Bech, the Luxembourg Foreign Minister, General and Mrs. Gruenther, Helen Kirkpatrick, Harry Labouisse and John Hughes came to lunch. Mr. Bech was in his usual entertaining form and kept us all amused. He says [redacted] he will have the EDC treaty ratified in Luxembourg (if the Belgians continue along their present line) sometime in June.

I got home shortly after 7:00 tonight, just in time to receive a telephone call from René Pleven that the meeting between the United States and French delegations this afternoon had gone extremely badly. He said [redacted] the American proposals appeared to him to represent a complete reversal of American NATO policy and he and his colleagues were so gravely disturbed that they were going to visit their Prime Minister at 11:00 o'clock tonight and explain the situation to him. Meanwhile, he said he would like Alphand to tell me what had transpired.

Alphand arrived and delivered a [redacted] gloomy account of the proceedings. I told him this was a delicate matter for me to take up with any of our people since it apparently involved a departure from the policy of the Truman administration, but I would see what I could do.

When I arrived for a stag dinner at the Ambassador's residence, I talked to Doug Dillon about my conversation. He said [redacted] at the end of the meeting he had noticed how disturbed Monsieur Bidault appeared to be and he had just returned from a long talk with him in the course of which he had straightened out what seemed to have complete misunderstanding.

DECLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CRC DATE 7-1-81
XDS or XDS EXT. DATE
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFIED

We discussed this subject a little further with Foster and some of the other people and I gathered much of the difficulty had arisen from the fact that the conversations had been conducted in English, which was imperfectly spoken by most of the French delegation.

Douglas had for dinner Messrs. Dulles, Humphrey, Stassen, and others. After dinner, Secretary of Defense Wilson, General Bradley, Frank Nash, Al Gruenther, General Ridgway, and John Hughes came in.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY CEC DATE 7-1-81

XDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
FOIA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

DECLASSIFIED